

Senate Bill 904

Sponsored by Senator BOQUIST

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Establishes Joint Interim Legislative Committee to Review Education Programs in Oregon. Directs committee to study and compile data related to possible methods for reforming public education system. Requires report to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to education no later than September 15, 2019. Allows committee to introduce legislation to implement recommendations.

Sunsets committee on December 31, 2019.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to an evaluation of education programs in Oregon; and declaring an emergency.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Joint Interim Legislative Committee to Review Education Programs**
5 **in Oregon is established.**

6 **(2) The committee consists of six members appointed as follows:**

7 **(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint three members from among members of the**
8 **Senate.**

9 **(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint three members from**
10 **among members of the House of Representatives.**

11 **(3) The committee shall research, study and compile data related to possible methods for**
12 **reforming the public education system of this state. The committee shall consider:**

13 **(a) The centralization of the hiring process for teachers, administrators and other school**
14 **staff at the state level with advisory boards at the county level;**

15 **(b) The centralization of the administration of education at the state level with advisory**
16 **boards at the county level;**

17 **(c) The consolidation of school districts in a manner that is similar to the geographic**
18 **coverage or the population coverage of a county;**

19 **(d) The elimination of legislative academic requirements that are not critical to providing**
20 **a quality education;**

21 **(e) Whether to offer an academic option that provides basic education until the 10th**
22 **grade, followed by two years of vocational training;**

23 **(f) Whether online education can and should be expanded;**

24 **(g) How other countries can spend less money per student than Oregon and yet have**
25 **students score higher on international tests;**

26 **(h) Why more rigorous standards for educator preparation programs have not resulted**
27 **in an increase in education quality;**

28 **(i) Whether educator preparation programs at public universities in this state should**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 prepare teachers in four years;

2 (j) How to prevent educator preparation programs from causing students to accrue sig-
 3 nificant debts while failing to prepare them to teach;

4 (k) Whether additional professional development for teachers has decreased the success
 5 of students;

6 (L) How to reduce class sizes; and

7 (m) Any other information to be researched, studied and compiled by the committee as
 8 established by the committee by rule.

9 (4) The committee may hold hearings and take testimony as necessary and appropriate
 10 for the performance of the committee's duties, functions and powers under subsection (3)
 11 of this section.

12 (5) The committee may not transact business unless a quorum is present. A quorum
 13 consists of a majority of committee members from the House of Representatives and a ma-
 14 jority of committee members from the Senate.

15 (6) Action by the committee requires the affirmative vote of a majority of committee
 16 members from the House of Representatives and a majority of committee members from the
 17 Senate.

18 (7) The committee shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

19 (8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
 20 ment to become immediately effective.

21 (9) The committee shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson
 22 or of a majority of the members of the committee.

23 (10) Members of the committee shall receive an amount equal to that authorized under
 24 ORS 171.072 from funds appropriated to the Legislative Assembly for each day spent in the
 25 performance of their duties as members of the committee.

26 (11) The committee may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the committee.

27 (12) The committee may pre-session file legislation in the manner provided in ORS 171.130
 28 for interim committees. All legislation recommended by official action of the committee must
 29 indicate that it is introduced at the request of the committee.

30 (13) The committee shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and
 31 may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative
 32 Assembly related to education no later than September 15, 2019. To the extent practicable,
 33 any recommendations for legislation must be revenue neutral.

34 (14) The Legislative Policy and Research Director shall provide staff support to the
 35 committee.

36 (15) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
 37 the committee in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating
 38 to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the committee
 39 consider necessary to perform their duties.

40 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2017 Act is repealed on December 31, 2019.

41 **SECTION 3.** This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
 42 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect
 43 on its passage.